



Minutes Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting

February 7-8, 2014

Comfort Inn Hotel and Conference Center - 1620 74th Avenue SW Tumwater, WA 98501

Evergreen Room

Thursday, February 6, 2014 – Special Meeting Governor's Office

1. Commission's Annual Meeting with the Governor

In accordance with RCW 77.04.055, the Commission met with Governor Inslee to review and prescribe basic goals and objectives, and review the performance of the Department in implementing fish and wildlife policies.

The following topics were discussed: tribal hunting issues, the Youth Advisory Council, and wolf recovery and management. The Governor offered his support and assistance in addressing these issues.

In addition to the Commission, the following people attended this portion of the meeting:
Rob Kavanaugh

February 7 & 8, 2014 Regular Meeting

Attendance

Commission:

Miranda Wecker, Chair
Brad Smith, Vice Chair
Robert Kehoe
Rollie Schmitt
Conrad Mahnken
Larry Carpenter

Department Staff:

Phil Anderson, Director
Joe Stohr, Deputy Director
William Frymire, AGO
Mike Grossman, AGO
Michael Young, AGO
Jim Scott
Randi Thurston

Rich Childers
Ron Warren
Guy Norman
Ron Roler
Steve Crown
Jennifer Quan

Commission Staff:

Tami Lininger

Dave Price
Dan Budd

Public:

Rob Kavanaugh
Ed Fedder
Butch Smith
Lee Blankenship
John Rosapepe
Robert Dashiell
James Euler
Diane Gallegos
Ruth Musgrave

Ellen Dorfman
David Ereth
Gary Johnson
Jack Hollingsworth
Frances Estalilla
Norm Reinhardt
Jensen Codera
Allen Lupfer
Carl Burks

Mark Coleman
Tim Hamilton
Loren Gee
Art Holman
Jim Jenkins
Jacob Bannon
Rob Sweem
Bill Osborn
Joe Durham

Ron Schwertzer
Mary Ann Schwertzer
Paul McMurtry
Jesse Fieldsend
David Van Dyke
Ian Winder
Garrett Sanislo
Melanie Rabaglia
Brandon Johnson

Story Warren	Bryanna Zimmerman	Dave Hamilton	Shawn Murray
Pam Daniel	Jeff Klund	Daniel Hubbard	Ron Rinear
Dan Coleman	Trenton Codera	Nathan Crouch	Marti Hollingsworth
Matt Chandler	Mel Conferd	Mike Ainsworth	Joe Frawley
Laura Frawley	Mike Bannon	Allan Hollingsworth	Fred Neal
Bob Lake	Robert Rao	John Campbell	Perry Harmon
Frank Huber Jr	Bob Mulhauser	Graycer Wilner	

Friday, February 7, 2014

Chair Wecker called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

2. Call to Order

a. Commissioners' Discussion:

- Commissioner Wecker – Wolves

b. Meeting Minute Approval

- January 10-11, 2014 regular meeting

Vice Chair Smith moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmitten to approve the minutes as proposed. Motion passed.

3. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

John Rosapepe - Wolf Plan

Rob Kavanaugh – Eel Grass and Western Gray Squirrel

Robert Dashiell – Fish Passage Culverts

Story Warren - Wolves

4. Director's Report

The Director briefed the Commission on the following items:

- Legislative Update
- Budget Update
- Smelt
- Voight Creek Hatchery
- Great Washington Getaways and Sport Shows
- Wolves
- North of Falcon
- Asotin County Meeting
- Research Projects
- Boldt 40th Anniversary Celebration
- Meeting with Conservation Northwest
- Tribal Hunting
- Pacific Salmon Council Meeting
- Dave Brittell's Passing

Items 5 and 6 were switched from the order on the agenda.

5. Proposed Land Transactions – Briefing, Public Hearing, Decision

The Commission considered approval of a land transaction in Mason County presented by Dan Budd, Real Estate Section Manager, Wildlife Program, for the protection of critical fish and wildlife habitat, enhancement of public recreation opportunities.

No one signed up to provide public testimony for this item.

Vice Chair Smith moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmitten, to approve the proposed updates as presented by the department including floor changes. Motion passed.

6. HPA Rules - Briefing

Randi Thurston, Protection Division Manager and Dave Price, Restoration Division Manager the Commission on the following proposed additions and changes to the hydraulic code rules:

- Changes to 220-110-070 Water crossing structures (proposed 220-110-190)
- New section 220-110-200 Fish passage improvement structures
- New section 220-110-230 Beaver dam management

7. Federal Funding Updates - Briefing

Jennifer Quan, Special Assistant provided an informational briefing on the federal budget and the potential impacts of federal budget cuts as they relate to the department. Staff also discussed the priority federal initiatives that pertain to projects, policies and funding, requiring coordination with the State's congressional delegation and/or Federal Agencies.

8. Puget Sound Clam and Oyster Seasons – Briefing and Public Hearing

Rich Childers, Puget Sound Shellfish Manager briefed the Commission on proposed season changes to 20 public beaches.

The following people signed up to provide public testimony for this item:
Robert Dashiell

9. Oyster Drill Location Designation – Briefing and Public Hearing

Rich Childers, Puget Sound Shellfish Manager briefed the Commission on designating tideland areas infested with Japanese Oyster drills.

No one signed up to provide public testimony for this item.

10. Review of Lower Columbia River Sturgeon Management Policy C-3001 – Decision

Guy Norman, Region 5 Director requested approval of policy C-3001 setting guidelines for management of the Lower Columbia River white sturgeon population and fisheries through December 31, 2018.

Commissioner Mahnken moved, seconded by Vice Chair Smith, to adopt Commission Policy C-3001 as presented by staff for the time period March 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018. Motion passed.

11. Columbia River Spring Chinook Recreational Fishery Allocation – Briefing and Public Hearing

Guy Norman, Region 5 Director and Ron Roler, Columbia River Policy Coordinator briefed the Commission on allocation and management strategies discussed with the Spring Chinook Citizens Recreational Advisory Group, and through the coordinated efforts of department staff and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

No one signed up to provide public testimony for this item.

12. Columbia River Emerging Purse Seine and Beach Seine Fishery - Briefing and Public Hearing

Ron Roler, Columbia River Policy Coordinator briefed the Commission on the implementation of pilot commercial seine fisheries, including results from discussions with the Commercial Emerging Fisheries Advisors Group, the commercial industry, as well as coordination with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

No one signed up to provide public testimony for this item.

Added – Executive Session

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), the Commission will meet in executive session to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency is, or is likely to become, a party. No action will be taken in executive session, and the public is not permitted to attend the executive session.

Chair Wecker recessed the meeting at 3:56 p.m.

Saturday, February 8, 2014

Chair Wecker called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

13. Open Public Input

The following people provided input for this item:

Allan Hollingsworth – Grays Harbor

Bob Lake – Grays Harbor

Melanie Rabaglia – Grays Harbor

Robert Rao – Grays Harbor

Ellen Dorfman – Wolves

Paul McMurtry - Wolves

Gary Johnson – Eel Grass/Wolves

14. Grays Harbor Salmon Management – Decision

Ron Warren, Deputy Assistant Director Intergovernmental Salmon Management, requested approval of the new Grays Harbor salmon-management policy, designed to enhance conservation and clarify management objectives for recreational and commercial fisheries throughout the Grays Harbor Basin. The Fish Committee reported to the full Commission on its recommendation.

Commissioner Mahnken moved, seconded by Vice Chair Smith, to approve the proposed policy as presented. Motion passed.

15. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief

- February 14, 2014 conference call
 - Youth Council

Chair Wecker adjourned the meeting at 9:47 a.m.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant